

- ☐ Owner
- ☐ Accountant/Bkkr.
- ☐ Business Associate
- ☐ HRM Managaer
- ☐ Office Manager
- ☐ Other _____

ALERT: All Prior Versions of UI*FastTax* Expired - New UI*FastTax* Version 3.1 Released

All prior versions of UI*FastTax* simply will not work for third quarter reports that are due October 31st.

If you use UI*FastTax* — and more than 12,000 businesses do — you must use the newest release, Version 3.1, from now on. Version 3.1 offers faster installation and more convenience, including automatic software updates from the Internet.

Version 3.1 includes "File Online Now" capability - to submit data via an active Internet connection with a single click of the mouse with on-line confirmation - no e-mail required.

Download Version 3.1

You can act immediately to download Version 3.1 in minutes from the Internet. Go to www.wa.gov/esd/tax and click on the UI*FastTax* link. If we have your e-mail address on file, you may already have gotten an e-mail from us that included a link to the UI*FastTax*

3.1 download website.

Convert to UI*FastTax* WEB

For businesses with reliable and fast web connections, another option is available — the new web-based version of UI*FastTax* called UI*FastTax* Web.

UI*FastTax* Web has some great features including the ability to pre-fill employer name and tax rates. Go to www.wa.gov/esd/tax and click on the UI*FastTax* link.

Watch Your Mailbox

A new CD will be mailed to every current user of UI*FastTax*, except those who download Version 3.1 from the Internet.

If you do not receive a CD and would like one, e-mail uifordorders@esd.wa.gov or call (360) 902-9636 to request a Version 3.1 CD. Remember to leave your name, mailing address, phone number, and ES Reference Number (if applicable).

Small Business WorkShops

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is offering Small Business Workshops statewide through December 2001. The topics range from *Starting A Business Got You All Shook Up?* to *Working for Love Instead of Money?* to *Employment Tax Workshop*. Presenters include representatives from federal, state, and local government as well as private companies. The workshops can be located on the Internet website for the IRS at <http://www.irs.gov/smallbiz/localevents/washington.htm>.

Department Launches Ad Campaign to Spur UI Internet Claims

The Employment Security Department will launch a promotional campaign next week for Go2ui.com, a website where applications and weekly certifications for unemployment benefits can be filed online.

"Every web application we take improves our overall efficiency and every web certification saves hard dollars," said Annette Copeland, Assistant Commissioner for Unemployment Insurance. "This effort to encourage filing over the Internet should help us keep down wait times for callers to the TeleCenters and reduce the number of applicants who go to local offices for claims assistance."

Starting September 2, a mix of paid and donated TV spots for Go2ui.com will appear on Fox Sports' Mariners games through the regular season. Northwest Cable News network will air a 50/50 mix of paid and donated spots from mid-September through December.

The balance of the campaign employs various ethnic broadcast outlets and newspapers, new telephone book listings, mass emails to human resources professionals, direct mail, media relations, and literature displays in libraries and WorkSource career centers.

The Washington

Employer Help Line

What's in it for me?

- File 'no payroll' quarterly tax reports.
- Obtain key data about your UI tax account.
- Have selected forms and/or publications faxed to you.
- Get help with your recruiting or place orders to fill anticipated job openings.
- Access these and other services 24 hours a day, any day. Just dial:

(206) 340-1400 - Seattle
(509) 892-9211 - Spokane
(253) 305-0038 - Tacoma
1-888-836-1900 - Toll Free

You get

qualified job candidates.

We get absolutely nothing.
(better hurry before we rethink this deal.)

**List jobs for free at
go2worksource.com**

go2worksource.com lets you reach thousands of Washington job seekers daily without spending a dime. Simply go to the site, post your job listings and watch the resumes roll in. Just please don't call our accountants.

WorkSource
Washington

Fall Recruiting Event Coming to Pierce County

WorkSource Pierce, in partnership with the South Hill Mall and the Eastern Pierce County Chamber, is hosting its first annual Fall Recruiting Event. The event is intended to bring together 30-40 businesses and 200-300 job seekers. To ensure ample employment opportunities for all attendees, the date selected coincides with the retail seasonal recruitment efforts. The event will be located at the South Hill Mall in Puyallup on October 4 from 11 a.m. until 3p.m. Table rental is \$50 and there are tables still available. For additional information, contact Susanne Boone, Business Services Representative at (253) 594-7953.

Standby Policy Guidelines for Employers

RCW 50.20.240 took effect on July 1, 1999. This statute established job search requirements for individuals who have received five or more weeks of unemployment benefits.

The only exceptions from these job search requirements are for those claimants who are employer attached (partially employed, standby, Shared Work, or on strike or lockout); members of a referral union; or enrolled in commissioner approved training.

There are **no** exemptions in this statute for futile work search, seasonally attached workers, individuals who live in remote locations, or other situations in which, prior to this law change, the department had waived work search requirements for individuals for long periods of time.

Do not put individuals on standby during a seasonal layoff that is expected to last more than four weeks. The law does not grant an exemption from the job search requirements for seasonally unemployed workers.

Seasonally unemployed is not limited to jobs that are controlled by the weather. Standby is not appropriate for individuals who are normally unemployed during a particular season or time of year (e.g., school employees or school bus drivers during the summer, agricultural workers during winter, resort workers during the off-season, etc.).

No one is grandfathered in. The law applies to all. Questions about standby should go to the local TeleCenter.

Shared Work: An Employer/Employee Friendly Program

Is your business experiencing today's economic uncertainties? Are your business dollars being threatened by the recent forecast of drought, high energy prices or weak foreign trade? Are you concerned as an employer, in retaining your skilled work force during a temporary business downturn? Then the **Shared Work Program** may be of benefit to your business.

Eligibility is extended to all employers, private or public, big and small. Employees, who would be eligible to receive regular unemployment insurance benefits in Washington State and are currently a full time permanent employee, are eligible to participate in the Shared Work Program.

- Employers are spared the costs of a 'reduction in force', the potential of losing skilled workers and the expenses of recruiting, hiring and training new employees. Plus, a savings of business dollars are realized.
- Employees weekly work hours are reduced but they are spared the hardships of full

unemployment and net more income than they would have being totally laid off.

Some other employer eligibility criteria are:

- The weekly hours of work within an affected unit/section of employees, are reduced by at least ten percent and not more than fifty percent.
- Employee 'fringe benefits' will continue to be provided on the same basis as before the reduction in work hours.
- A 'Shared Work Plan' applies to at least ten percent of employees in an affected unit or section.
- The total reduction of work hours must be in lieu of, and equivalent to layoffs, which would have affected at least ten percent of the employees in the work unit/section.

The Shared Work Program will not subsidize seasonal employers during the off season nor subsidize the traditional use of part-time employees.

For more Information, call 1-800-752-2500.

Save Your Business Money With Shared Work!

Are you anticipating or experiencing an unexpected slowdown in your business?

For more information, call
1-800-752-2500

Not available during seasonal slowdowns or for part-time employees.

Report a Fraud Today

Know of a dishonest contractor, employer, worker, health care provider, attorney?

Report-a-fraud hotline:
1-888-811-5974

Report-a-fraud-website:
<http://www.lni.wa.gov/fraud/>

The Department of Labor and Industries, in coordination with the Department of Revenue and the Employment Security Department, want to help you cut down on fraud. You don't have to give your name.

It's On The Net

Employment Security: The Right Connection

**Visit Employment Security's
Homepage at: www.wa.gov/esd**

The News You Need To Know About Employment Security.

- Take a look at our special programs for business.
- Get important tax information.
- Improve your general knowledge about ES.
- Find out what's going on -- look at our current publications.
- All that is at hand merely by visiting Employment Security's Home Page.